

410-313-3600 / [ECFloodRecovery@HowardCountyMD.gov](mailto:ECFloodRecovery@HowardCountyMD.gov)

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## **County focused on forecast of stormy weather as Ellicott City five-day cleanup to get underway**

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – With stormy weather in the forecast for the next several days, the Howard County Office of Emergency Management will continuously monitor local advisories and weather radar as a safety precaution during the upcoming five-day Ellicott City Main Street cleanup.

The cleanup starts tomorrow, Aug. 18 and through Monday, Aug. 22, the County has established a window from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day for those needing to clean out, pack up and move out of their residences and businesses. Building owners can also use this time to bring in contractors to begin working on a recovery plan or for emergency remediation.

In the event of heavy rain or thunderstorms, access may be suspended or terminated. Should that occur, people along Main Street are asked to follow the direction of government safety personnel on scene.

Cars, vans, pickups and small box trucks up to 15-feet long will be allowed to enter the Main Street area for the retrieval of larger items and belongings. **Those planning to bring a vehicle must call 410-313-2900 to have access approved and scheduled.** Vehicles will be scheduled in six-hour blocks of time. Those accessing properties will be allowed to make multiple visits during the five-day period.

Credentialing and staging will begin at 7 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 18; Friday, August 19 and Monday, August 22 at: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3695 Rogers Avenue, Ellicott City and Saturday, Aug. 20 and Sunday, Aug. 21 at George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City

In other recovery news...

-The Maryland Board of Public Works voted today to provide \$2.5 million in funding to assist small businesses and property owners in Ellicott City as they recover from the devastating flooding on July 30.

In a 2-0 vote, the board designated the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to administer the loans to eligible businesses in Ellicott City.

“We are so appreciative that the State has stepped up with this important support for these affected businesses,” said Kittleman. “Governor Hogan and Comptroller Franchot have been in regular contact with us from the earliest moments of this emergency. We’ve made a lot of progress in our recovery, but there is still much more to be done. This funding will continue that momentum.”

-The Howard County Council approved Kittleman's proposed legislation that waives a wide range of permit fees for those businesses who need to rebuild following the July 30 flooding. Fees are being waived through Dec. 31.

Many of the fees will be waived for flood victims across the county, however the waiver for water, sewer and sewage fees will apply to properties in a more specific Main Street area.

- Howard County crews will repave parking lot F in Ellicott City during the day Thursday. Vehicles that normally park on Merryman and Hill Streets should park on lot F Thursday night.

On Friday, Howard County crews then will be repaving Merryman and Hill Streets. Vehicles can be parked on Merryman and Hill Streets Friday evening.

- Ellicott City residents displaced by the July 30 flash flood may have an opportunity to return to their homes in the near future. As residences are deemed safe for re-entry by county building and fire inspectors and structural engineers, Kittleman has asked that landlords reach out to their tenants when buildings can be reoccupied.

Kittleman stressed that access to the building not be from restricted areas and that there be a plan in place to prevent residents from accessing restricted areas, including parking outside the restricted areas. All utilities (water, sewer, electric and gas) must be restored before those are allowed to return.

Returning residents would also be required to wear Howard County government-issued credentials. Credentialing is still available daily at the Disaster Assistance Center, located in the Ellicott City 50+ Center, 9401 Frederick Road in Ellicott City. Hours are Monday-Wednesday from 2 – 7 p.m. and Thursday-Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information or assistance, please call 410-313-2900 and continue to visit the recovery resource page at [www.ECfloodrecovery.org](http://www.ECfloodrecovery.org).

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